



kiniro 2 mosaic

vol. 11 a

kiniro
mosaic

2

Yui Hara



characters

Karen
Kujou
(elegant)

Shinobu
Oomiya
(pleasant)

Aya
Komichi
(inerrant)

Youko
Inokuma
(effervescent)

Alice Cartelet
(buoyant)



TODAY
WE HAD A
SINGING
TEST IN OUR
ELECTIVE,
MUSIC
CLASS.

I
WAS SO
NERVOUS!













YES,
SUNNY
DAYS
MORE
EXCITING!



GOOD
MORN-
ING!



HA
HA!

KAREN...
YOU'RE
AT MAX
EXCITE-
MENT BY
DEFAULT,
REGARD-
LESS OF
THE WEATHER.



YEAH,
THIS IS
GREAT
AFTER
ALL THAT
RAIN.

THE
WEATH-
ER'S
GREAT
TODAY,
ISN'T
IT?



I WONDER
WHAT FUN
THINGS ARE
IN STORE
FOR US
TODAY!































SCARY STORY TIME















↑ SCALE











↑ WANTS TO BE AN INTERPRETER



↑ SACRIFICE











↑ CONFETTI FROM THE PARTY POPPERS

END TIME IN ONE DAY





TONGUE TWISTERS























♣ ALICE

♣ GEMINI

































vs. youko.



WHAT
STANCE
IS THAT
SUPPOSED
TO BE?

LIKE
THIS!?









↑ DRIVER FOR THE DAY







↓ JUMPING AREA



















↑ SUPER HAPPY



















































OOOO HAIR MOÉ



SO THIS
IS REAL
COSPLAY...!?

















Afterword

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR READING

KURO MOSHIC VOLUME TWO!

I HOPE YOU ENJOYED READING ABOUT

ALICE AND FRIENDS' LIGHT-HEARTED

EVERYDAY LIVES

MY HEARTFELT THANKS TO MY

EDITOR, THE DESIGNER, AND ALL MY

SUPPORTERS. I'LL KEEP WORKING

HARD SO THAT WE CAN MEET AGAIN

IN A THIRD VOLUME!

- YUI HARA







kiniro
mosaic

Translation Notes

GENERAL:

Kiniro Mosaic means "Gold-Colored Mosaic" in Japanese.

PAGE 6

"I have no regrets!" (*Ippen na kui nashi!*) are the famous last words of Raoh, the main antagonist of the manga *Fist of the North Star*.

PAGE 9

Traditional happi coats were historically worn by servants and firefighters. In modern Japan, they're typically only worn to festivals.

PAGE 10

At a **maid café**, all waitresses are dressed as maids. Most commonly seen in otaku hubs such as Akihabara in Japan, they cater to numerous interests, such as fondness for cute girls and European-style clothing, both of which Shinabu is crazy for.

A **Japanese sweets café**, or *kanmitsu dakara*, serves Japanese-style confectionaries and snacks. Typically, Japanese sweets are much less sweet compared to snacks found in North America and Europe.

PAGE 11

A **portable Shinto shrine** (*mikashii*) is a divine palanquin used to move deities between their main and temporary shrines, usually for a festival.

PAGE 12

Anko is a sweetened red bean paste.

Dango are sweet dumplings made from rice flour.

PAGE 15

Yakisoba are stir-fried noodles, typically mixed with meat, seafood, cabbage, and with a thick, savory sauce.

Takoyaki are fried octopus balls.

PAGE 16

"I have cut a worthless object once again": This is a catchphrase of the character Goemon in the *Lupin the Third* franchise.

PAGE 21

Bathing together isn't uncommon in Japan; in addition to children taking baths with a parent, there are also public bathhouses and hot springs.

PAGE 26

Jizau statues are commonly seen along roadsides and in graveyards. Offerings are given to the statues to protect children who've passed into the afterlife, or to thank the bodhisattva Jizau for saving children who recovered from a serious illness.

PAGE 32

Character lunches, or *kyaraben* (character bento), are elaborately-arranged boxed lunches, often themed around popular characters.

The **kanji character for rice** roughly resembles the flag of the United Kingdom.

PAGE 37

Karasumi is a delicacy made from sun-drying mullet roe.

PAGE 41

The **tongue twister** in the Japanese version is *Nama mugi, nama game, nama tamago*, which means "Raw wheat, raw rice, raw egg."

PAGE 43

Danma! is an example of *wasei-eiga*, or English loan words that don't mean quite exactly the same thing as they did in English.

PAGE 53

Manager girls on Japanese high school baseball teams do not serve the same role as a manager on an American baseball team. They typically fulfill administrative, clerical, and scouting duties, such as taking care of equipment, cleaning, researching opposing teams, and keeping written statistics and records for the team.

PAGE 54

Seaweed tsukudani, or *nari na tsukudani*, is seaweed simmered in soy sauce and sweet saké.

PAGE 62

in the Japanese version of this volume, "**flat as a gourd**" is *tsuntsuru* (slippery), "**flat as a chord**" is *chinchikuri* (shanty), and "**flat as a sword**" is *suffutan* (nude). The term Aya is looking for in English is "flat as a board," and in Japanese *tsurupetta* (smooth and flat).

PAGE 63

Drawing the kanji character for "person" on your hand three times and then "swallowing" it is supposed to help with nervousness.

PAGE 64

Sei Shounagon is an author and poet who served in the Japanese imperial court during the Heian period. She's known for writing *The Pillow Book*. Shina starts to recite a famous passage of Sei Shounagon's... and then finishes off with a much more modern saying.

Bossa nova is a Brazilian music style that fuses samba and jazz, perfect for relaxing to in the summer.

Page 65

A **quick gag**, or *ippatsu gyagu*, is a kind of quick-take catchphrase or pose done for comedic effect. These kinds of acts are usually associated with one-hit wonder comedians, who rapidly gain fame and lose it just as quickly.

Page 69

In the **Yamanote Line Game**, you pick a category and then go in order naming things from that category while clapping to the rhythm. If you go purely by the name of the game, you would name stations that are stops on the Yamanote train line.

PAGE 70

In Japanese, Mount Fuji is called *Fuji-san*, but a stereotypical foreigner mispronunciation of it is *Fujiyama*. *San* and *yama* both mean "mountain."

PAGE 71

Forest girl fashion (or *mori girl*) features whimsical, vintage-inspired designs, with long, airy dresses or skirts, layers, bows, natural colors, headpieces, etc.

Mountain girl fashion (or *yama girl*) is something of a variation on it, with more outdoors activity-appropriate clothes that still look feminine and innocent.

PAGE 73

In the Japanese version, **"kicking butt and taking names"** is *bui bui*. This is based on the Japanese pronunciation for the letter V, which is typically associated with the word "victory" in Japan. Saying *bui bui* is basically saying that you can get it done without a hitch.

PAGE 81

Esper Karen is a reference to the 1977 manga *Esper Mami* by beloved creator duo Fujiko Fujio, best known for creating *Doraemon*. *Esper Mami* follows a girl named Mami Sakura, who uses her supernatural abilities to solve mysteries.

PAGE 90

When a Japanese student doesn't know the answer to a multiple-choice question on a test, the stereotypical thing to do is **mark each side of their pencil with one of the answers and then roll it**. The student then chooses whichever letter ends up on top. In other words, it's leaving the test up to chance.

PAGE 100

At **yakiniku restaurants**, customers can cook ingredients themselves on grills built into their tables throughout their meal.

PAGE 102

Middle-school second-year delusions (*chuunibyou* or *chuuni* for short) is when someone with a hyperactive imagination lives in their own little fantasy world, or at least wants to believe that there's more to real life. Typically, those who have *chuunibyou* have delusions of possessing some sort of fantastic or occult power. It's named for the age at which this kind of thinking seems most common: in the second year of middle school. It is the rough equivalent of having a "goth phase" in one's teenage years.

PAGE 104

An old lady going down to the river to do her washing is how the Japanese folk story of *Momotarou*, a boy born from a peach, begins.

PAGE 109

Animejuu is a reference to the real-world anime and entertainment magazine *Animage*. First published in 1978, it was the first Japanese animation magazine in Japan targeting a general (as opposed to professional) audience.

PAGE 112

"Idiots don't catch colds" is a common saying in Japan.

PAGE 120

The **golden Alice** and **golden Karen** are a spoof on the folktale, *The Honest Woodcutter*. A woodcutter accidentally drops his ax into the river. A deity appears with a gold ax, and then a silver ax, asking if either is the ax the woodcutter dropped. Because the woodcutter says no to both, and is shown to be an honest and upright man, the deity awards the woodcutter with his original ax as well as the gold and silver ones. The woodcutter is then able to sell the gold and silver axes for a great profit and live happily ever after.



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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

KINIRO MOSAIC VOL. 2

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New York, NY 10104

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First Yen Press Edition: March 2017

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2016946069

ISBNs: 978-0-316-43353-1 (paperback)
978-0-316-43361-7 (ebook)

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

BVG

Printed in the United States of America



